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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1915.

SYMPTOMS OF INDIGESTION

One person out of every six in the State of New York is an alien. One person out of every four in New York's insane asylums is an alien; one convict out of every three in the State's prisons is an alien.

The alien population of the State increased 600,000 in ten years. Almost 14,000 unnaturalized residents are in asylums or jails, which is equal to 21.3 per cent of this 600,000 increase.

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The general plan by which the Commissioners, in their estimates, recommended street improvements, as outlined by Commissioner Brownlow before the Lincoln Park Citizens' Association last evening, will meet with the hearty approval of a vast majority of District residents. Instead of further extending the so-called "arterial" highways, and instead of laying streets in new sections which later may be built up, this year's street improvements are going to be before the front doors of persons who have been living on mud and dirt streets for years.

These people have been helping pay for the extension of street improvements in localities which have not yet been inhabited.

The trips of the Commissioners about the city upon personal investigations of street conditions must have been an illuminating experience. They found miles of street projected into quarters where real estate booms had been launched. They found closely settled blocks where taxpayers had been living for years amid dirt streets.

There is an aspect of the right sort of city development in the promise to pave these streets. The city has suffered because of the constant forcing of residents into new neighborhoods to get the improvements they were entitled to where they have lived before. Such frequent changes have been more than a physical discomfort; they have worked to destroy that community interest and civic spirit which dwellers in a certain section for many years acquire.

WONDER STORY OF GOLD

As part payment for the gigantic buying which foreign nations are now doing in the American market there was received in this country between the first day of January and the thirtieth day of September a net sum of \$252,902,608 in gold.

It is not easy to convey a sense of the magnitude of this importation. Something may be realized from the fact that in the last fifteen years there has never been a period from January to September, with one single exception, in which we have had on international movements any net gold balance at all.

In 1911 there was for the nine months an outward flow of \$18,263,310 and an inward flow of \$45,117,106. But in every other year of the last fifteen years there was always for that period an excess of gold exports, running all the way from some two and three-quarter millions in 1901 to some one hundred and eighteen millions for the nine months of last year.

In 1913 the gold sent out exceeded the gold received by nearly \$28,000,000, in 1909 by more than \$66,000,000, in 1908 by more than \$80,000,000, in 1907 by more than \$19,000,000, in 1906 by nearly \$76,000,000.

And yet if gold receipts this year have been something unthinkable, in all probability even that is to seem as nothing compared with what it is going to be before the end of the year and before the end of the war.

Right now gold is flowing to us in a volume very much greater than the average of those nine months. Where we began the year by receiving gold in dribbles, gold now comes in lots of ten millions at a clip.

We took in some \$42,000,000 in September, shipping out \$2,000,000. Now we are going even higher. In a single shipment the other day we received more than \$30,000,000. With New York city alone exporting nearly \$48,000,000 of merchandise in the four business days of last week,

we are running up foreign trade balances to dizzy heights.

We don't need the gold and we don't wish it if we could be paid in other ways just as good. Commodities shipped to us are as good, but our customers cannot ship us enough. Our own securities are as good, but while we are taking those at the rate of \$60,000,000 or \$70,000,000 a month, and while apparently our stock markets are showing a capacity to absorb even more, American bonds and stocks are not available for liquidation all at once.

Meanwhile the rivers of gold pour in upon us. They make past shipments look like petty cash. They promise to make even the great loan of half a billion dollars look trivial.

This is the wonder story of gold, which nobody here wants, but which the world, wanting it hungrily and even desperately, keeps piling upon us by millions, tens of millions, hundreds of millions.

THE SHIP BOMB PLOTS

Arrests have been made in New York by police and Secret Service men, in connection with which there has been revealed enough of testimony to suggest very strongly the direct implication of the German secret service in inspiring, financing, and directing the activities of the incendiaries who have been trying to blow up or fire ships sailing from our harbors. It is a most flagrant violation of the neutrality of this country; one whose disavowal would indeed be difficult to accept, if it were conclusively shown that German officialdom has been carrying on these operations.

Some three months ago there were revelations about German activities in this country, of such character that the ambassador of Austria-Hungary was recalled by his government, following a sharp intimation from Washington that such a course would save this country the embarrassment of having to ask for his withdrawal. At that time documents were produced, re-enforced later by others taken from an American correspondent who was acting as courier for the Austrian and German embassies, which made it plain as daylight that high officials had been involved in the most grossly improper performances here.

The American Government showed the utmost moderation in dealing with these matters. The old passport scandals were handled in like fashion; the authorities on this side seemed determined to give our overenterprising diplomatic guests all the consideration possible. In the various affairs that involved the attempts to introduce bombs or inflammables on ships sailing from this country, and in the various conspiracies to burn or blow up manufacturing plants turning out munitions, there was the same kind of excessive moderation.

Seemingly Washington has been disposed to give our Germanic friends all the chance in the world to reform; to realize that they were watched; that their program was known; that it was certain to be pretty thoroughly futile as to real results, and that it might bring an impossible stress in international relations. But it has all been without effect. The same sort of plotting has gone steadily on; apparently the American authorities has been mistaken for weakness and cowardice about meeting the real issue.

The time has come for vigorous and direct action. The country is being progressively humiliated. We are getting to look thoroughly pusillanimous to the world at large. There will be no excuse for claiming the respect of anybody, if our authorities do not presently take steps to end this kind of thing. The diplomat who enjoys diplomatic immunities is presumed to prove himself worthy of them; there is no presumption that he is given extraordinary privileges in order to make it possible for him to direct plots against the country to which he is accredited. Only a policy of sheer and contemptible cowardice could permit such things to go on.

THE AUTO AND THE RAILS

The Southern Pacific railroad's annual report shows a loss of \$8,654,000 in operating revenues, and it is stated that 41 per cent—a very high proportion—of this loss is in passenger earnings. These, it is explained, have suffered severely by the competition of the automobile.

A study of the effects of motor traffic on the short-distance travel of the railroads would be highly useful. There is fast developing a serious problem in the commutation districts adjacent to large cities. It may fairly be said that in some cases facilities have been provided that are better than can be justified on economic grounds; railroad commutation trains, trolley lines, and the modern roads that invite use of motor cars for both pleasure and profit.

Not unrelated to this change in the passenger situation is the loss of a considerable volume of collateral freight traffic. To take a specific instance, the commutation service on the Baltimore and Ohio's

Metropolitan branch, into Washington, has been maintained under discouraging conditions. A few months ago rates were raised, and immediately a considerable proportion of business deserted the railroad cars and took to the trolley; while a constantly increasing number of former patrons of the railroad use motor cars. But this is not all. Formerly, a large share of the milk daily consumed in Washington was hauled into the city by the commutation trains, gathered up at the little stations. Since the advent of splendid modern roads, this traffic has been progressively leaving the railroad and going to the lines of freighting trucks which provide excellent service. The railroad must maintain the service, even though it may not be profitable. The huge trucks, running over highways that represent \$10,000 to \$20,000 per mile in construction costs, impose severe wear and tear on the highways and wear them out as no other traffic does. Whether it is justifiable economics to have railroad cars running half empty, while trucks are wearing out expensive highways parallel to the railroad right-of-way, is one of the little questions that the road builders of the country will one day realize they must face and deal with. The loss of passenger traffic to the automobiles is something that is not obviously to be stopped; perhaps taxpayers who foot the bills for good roads will one day learn the desirability of regulations that will protect their investments at least to the extent of stopping waste.

ANOTHER ROOT APPEAL

Senator Root, addressing the Economic Club in New York, made an impassioned plea for the ratification of the proposed constitution of the Empire State, on which the voters will pass at the election next month. Some of the things he said apply not only to conditions in New York, which the new charter seeks to improve, but to those in almost all other States.

The Senator especially addressed himself to the efforts at improving the estate of the Commonwealth's legislature. He described the discredit into which this body has fallen, and declared that the constitutional convention had tried earnestly to estimate causes and apply remedies. He believed it had succeeded, and for this alone he prayed that the work of the convention might be approved by the people.

Every observer of American affairs realizes the justice of what Mr. Root said about the bad repute of the legislatures. The time was when city government was the greatest reproach to American political systems. That day has passed. The cities have been improved, to a large extent redeemed; the legislatures have been bettered only to the extent that a higher authority than themselves forced improvement on them. That is, they have been given a chance to improve themselves, by having the prerogative of Senatorial elections taken away from them.

It is not unfair to suspect that the degradation of the legislatures has been in large part the result of that persistent outside interference, and too often corruption, which almost compelled making them mere political tools because of their power to elect Senators. The legislature of a State became the prey in the great national political hunt. Its proper and legitimate functions were subordinated, indeed were commonly sacrificed, because of the supposed supreme importance of this function of choosing Senators. The Senators became, not the creatures of the legislature, but the bosses. It was impossible that a self-respecting attitude should be maintained by the legislature in such conditions. Even if the United States Senate should never benefit by the popular election of its members, the legislatures will ultimately be vastly improved by reason of their divorce from national politics.

There is yet much to be accomplished before the legislatures may become objects of pride to the country; and the New York constitution, with its budget system and other important advances, gives promise of making the Empire State a leader in this upward way.

Desiring a representative in Haiti with a knowledge of the Haitian character, the Administration should secure somebody possessing a powerful magnifying glass.

With his navy already reduced to one vessel, the Turk will soon be in a position to collaborate with the Swiss.

In her endeavors to procure an audience for her peace views, Jane Addams might learn Piute and camp on the trail of that sterling character, Tse-Nee-Gat.

With no assassinations in the last few days, the new Mexican government is faced with the alternative of subsidizing the industry or seeing Europe secure a monopoly of the trade.

Things have taken a sharp turn for the better, just when it began to look as if Prexy Wilson's Mexican policy was a twenty-year endowment.

U. S. Overseas Trust To Give Right of Way To American Shipping

It Is a Scheme of Having Good Faith of Representations So Guaranteed That Allied Nations Will Accept Them—Business Interests Support Plan.

By JUDSON C. WELLIVER.

Formation of the American Overseas Corporation, as a sort of intermediary and guarantor of the neutral character of exports from this country to other neutrals, was a step utterly unexpected outside a small official circle in Washington.

There has been some criticism, based on the assumption that Great Britain, as the belligerent in control of the seas, had somehow exerted influence to compel this step by American business interests. The contrary is the strict fact; the British embassy in Washington did not know that such a move was contemplated, and when the announcement was made was quite as surprised as any American interest.

Some months ago the suggestion was advanced by some business concerns possessed of large interests in foreign trade affected by the blockade, that an Overseas Trust be formed, similar to the Netherlands Overseas Trust, and to the corporation formed in Sweden with like purpose.

MOVE PURELY COMMERCIAL.

At that time feelers directed to the State Department brought the report that the plan was not likely to meet with favor in that quarter. No very definite idea was gained as to the reasons for the objections, but it is believed that there was fear of criticism based on the charge that such a move would amount to a surrender to England of our claims to absolute equality on the sea.

At any rate, the early approaches to the State Department met with no encouragement, and both American business and British diplomatic agencies got the impression that it was useless to press the suggestion. Announcement of the program now comes from Mr. Redfield, the Secretary of Commerce, and this, together with the fact that British diplomacy has not been conspicuous at the Washington end, has led to the impression that the move is purely a commercial one, launched by business interests, supported by the State Department, but not intended to be only semi-official.

There is keen concern in Washington as to the reception that will be given to the announcement of the plan. Without doubt there will be some criticism inspired by political considerations. Some people are going to misunderstand it because they can't understand it; others because they don't want to understand it. It is part of the announcement that the scheme has no official backing of the State Department. This is given rather more significance, in view of the fact that the State Department in effect rejected the program a short time ago, and that now it comes from another department of the Government.

Commerce Question Embarrassing.

It is not necessary to diverge of opinion between the departments. It can be said with all confidence that the Department of Commerce has not taken up and put through a program that the State Department declined to accept. The point, it is explained, is that some things the State Department cannot do, and the Department of Commerce, while the State Department would not care to commit itself to the principles involved in them. Nothing since the European war began has been more embarrassing to American diplomats than this question of commerce among neutrals. Almost any objection that the United States might make to any regulation or practice of the allies, in their administration of sea power, would be met by the question of the determination of prize courts and Supreme Court in the questions of blockade and contraband. The question has been first to protect our commerce as it exists today, and second to make sure that we are not liable to be at war and to need to blockade an enemy in future. It has been a compromise, especially with a considerable element in the United States, that power was being sacrificed, and anxious to make political capital out of that allegation.

Model For United States.

Early in the war the Dutch business elements organized an overseas corporation, which is the model of the one formed for the United States. The purpose was to get the aggregated business responsibility of the country behind one system of guarantees that would insure the blockading countries that their blockade was not being rendered nugatory by reason of the contraband conditions guaranteed by the United States. This was accomplished, as to Holland, and lately as to Sweden, with measurable success. The Swedish blockade was imperfectly enforced, but not until very recently has it been strengthened by reason of the fact that British submarines have been brought into the Baltic area, and have practically cut off Sweden from Germany on that side as well as on the side of the western ocean.

The Overseas Corporation for the United States will be simply a scheme of having the good faith of certain representations so guaranteed by the allied governments that they will be willing to accept them. Early in the war the United States Club and the British Alliance entered into arrangements of almost precisely similar character. Each organization undertook to give guarantees, and a substantial one could be pledged that the blockade would not be violated. Articles guaranteed by these organizations have been given right-of-way on the great waters without question. The Overseas Corporation is designed to make a like system apply to American commerce in general.

One Way To End Blockade.

In one sense, this is letting Britain and her allies dictate the terms on which America may do business with the world. It has elements of national humiliation. The other side is that in fact there is a great war in progress; that either side would enforce a blockade if it could; that this country did the same when it was at war; that whenever we are at war again we will probably have to enforce another blockade; and that there is only one way to end a belligerent's blockade, and that is to turn in and let the belligerent. There is indignation about the

Plays and Players at the Theaters

NATIONAL. BELASCO.

The musical extravaganza—hunger which gnaws at the heart of the theater-goer at the beginning of the season, can be satisfied this week by attendance at the National Theater, where "Around the Map" is being produced for the first time on an elaborate scale.

It was just such a hunger that drove a big audience to that theater last night, and which, when thoroughly satisfied, promoted individuals to linger in the aisles and wave madly at the singing and dancing host gathered on the stage for the finale.

And as the audience filed slowly out with backward glances at the swiftly flying curtain, there was not one heart which did not glow with a fervor of gratitude toward the producers, Messrs. Klaw & Erlanger, who were responsible for the costumes shimmering in their newness, Elsie Alder in all of her sincerity and charm, and for an excellent performance in all of the zip and ginger of the play.

Of the scenery one can but say that it out-moded modern Grandville Barker; of the costumes, that they rivalled the past and present history, but that they afford material upon which the fashions for the remainder of time may be founded; the cast, the director, of their names looks more like a time table than anything else; and of the production, that it is a masterpiece of cleverness, and vim was worthy of the efforts of an expectant heir in the presence of the rich and aged uncle.

Perhaps the best point about the production arises from the fact that there is not a bad wait in the course of the entire evening. The entertainment is a drop of excellent service, and while the smoothness with which the course of events is unrolled, the intelligence and experience of the humble stage hands and their master, due credit must be given to Joseph P. Morrell, who composed the scenery. The simple yet highly effective and easily adjusted backgrounds with the performers in from a general effect of a series of Vogue or Vanity Fair covers.

The first scene arises on a young man—delightful relief from the usual lying in bed, in the middle of the stage, while clustered about him are his sportsman friends, eager to rouse him, and incidentally, inform the audience of the course of events to follow. The young man is Robert Pitkin, Count George de Gak, who eventually falls in love with Tootsie, the little sock-darner, who tries to ensnare him while engaged in a tour around the world with an account of the war.

William Norrie, in the role of the dreamer Impitoff, provides himself an able comedian, and his disguises while making for the audience, in the scenes, are given distinction by his impersonations.

Consistently clever and amusing is Georgia O'Ramey in the role of the discontented Lulu. Helen Cox as the rival dreamer whose presence in the piece is mainly for the purpose of giving excuse for the introduction of double the usual number of costumes, is a statuette beauty who sings with a quaint accent, a basket of socks, and glorious costumes is as acceptable to America as she was to Berlin, if the recognition which attended her premiere performance in this country last night, can be taken as a criterion.

POLIS.

"Wildfire," the stirring race horse play in which Lillian Russell achieved distinction a few seasons ago, serves as a splendid vehicle for a display of the Pol Players' talents this week. Two large and enthusiastic audiences yesterday expressed their warm and hearty appreciation of the finished performance with almost continuous applause.

Near the end of the matinee performance, Miss Florence Rittenhouse, who played the part in which Miss Russell starred, slipped and fell, injuring her ankle so severely as to render her unable to continue her performance. Her place was taken by Miss Dorothy Bernard, formerly leading woman of the Columbia Stock company. Miss Bernard acquitted herself admirably, and was a fine aviator and many flowers were showered on her. Miss Rittenhouse, who was in the company tonight or tomorrow, is played with snap, dash, and vigor by the Pol Players, who, in the fact that fast action is the order of the day. The scenic effects and costumes are unusually good. Miss Blanche Friederle was exceptionally clever as a bull, in particular, when Schoppe scored a hit as an English lord, and J. Hammond Dalry, brought down the house as a flashy negro jockey.

GAYETY.

Ben Welch and his capable company of burlesques are giving this week presenting two burlesques, "A Lord for a Day" and "The Hero of Brighton Beach." Both are tuneful and afford Welch ample opportunity to display his talents as a comedian, as a singer, as a dancer, and as a clown. The comedy is a masterpiece, and the burlesque is a masterpiece.

"Minn's" popular women in burlesque, heads the feminine aggregation and scored many times in popular success and dancing at the Casino Theater last night. With Royal C. Stout in the part of the young married man who loses his fortune in the Casino Theater last night, the performance was well received. In the climax when her dual life comes to the knowledge of her husband, Miss Kennedy, as Mrs. Wagner, shows great dramatic power.

E. S. Phillips, as the father-in-law, is a masterpiece of comedy, and his humorous situations, others who add much to the production are Lillian Norrie, Maize Oliver and Helen Gillingwater.

CASINO.

Before a crowd that filled every seat an excellent version of "Today," the play by George Broadhurst that made such a success on Broadway, was presented at the Casino Theater last night. With Royal C. Stout in the part of the young married man who loses his fortune in the Casino Theater last night, the performance was well received. In the climax when her dual life comes to the knowledge of her husband, Miss Kennedy, as Mrs. Wagner, shows great dramatic power.

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Bryan to Deliver 49 Speeches Without Pay

STUEBENVILLE, Ohio, Oct. 25.—William Jennings Bryan opened a week's campaign in Ohio in behalf of prohibition and against the proposed State amendment that would limit the use of the initiative and referendum. He is scheduled to make forty-nine speeches in as many towns, all without pay.

To Speak At Mission.

Mrs. H. E. Monroe and Captain McKee will be the leaders this evening of the services continuing the fall jubilee of the Gospel Mission, which opened Sunday and will continue until October 27.

B. F. KEITH'S

This is Nora Bayes' week at Keith's Theater and the scores of admirers of this charming singer filled the house at two performances yesterday. To enumerate the encores would be almost an impossibility, for in her own inimitable manner she has a repertoire of songs and dances to the outburst of applause always following the completion of a number. It is the complete list of songs and dances that she has a repertoire of songs and dances to the outburst of applause always following the completion of a number.

COLUMBIA.

The photoplay being shown at Loew's Columbia Theater the first half of this week is a picturization of "The Chorus Lady." A few years ago, the very thought of the play without Rose Stahl's inimitable dialect and mannerisms would have been impossible. "The Chorus Lady" is a picture of a chorus girl who took her own happiness and her younger sister is presented by a capacious cast.

As Patricia O'Brien, the chorus lady, "The Chorus Lady" is a picture of a chorus girl who took her own happiness and her younger sister is presented by a capacious cast.

Models' Rehearsals

Held For Style Show

There was a series of models' rehearsals in Washington yesterday in preparation for the National Style Show and Dances, which opens at Rauscher's Thursday afternoon.

Twenty-two young Washington women have been selected to pose in the gowns at the show. Professional models from New York and Chicago also will take part in the exhibition. The rehearsals yesterday were held at four different salons.

This fashion show is anticipated with a great deal of interest for the unusual showing of correct apparel, on living models, and for the dances that will be a feature each afternoon, and evening, for which there will be no extra charge.

Royalist Students Beat President Yuan's Envoy

TOKYO, Oct. 25.—An emissary of President Yuan Shi-Kai of China, here on secret mission, has been attacked by several Chinese students and is in a critical condition.

There are at present about 700 Chinese students in Japan, and they are nearly all monarchists, who would prefer to see China restored to the Manchurian rather than remain a republic. The object of President Yuan's special mission is not disclosed.

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